



S/S 20877

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

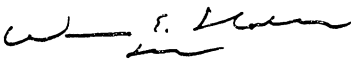
December 30, 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. McGEORGE BUNDY
THE WHITE HOUSE

*Briefed Bundy + Bundy.
Mr. Bundy said to leave
the decision up to sub.
Thompson. Whether one
or both messages are to
be sent.*

Enclosed is a suggested reply to Chairman Khrushchev's and Chairman Brezhnev's New Year's message of December 30 to the President. The Department of State poses no objection to the transmission in addition of the more personal message to Chairman Khrushchev drafted in the White House in response to a Khrushchev message to the President which we understand was transmitted through Mr. Norman Cousins. However, we believe that our suggested text would be a more appropriate official response.

We will be pleased to telegraph either or both messages upon receipt of your instructions.


William H. Brubeck
Executive Secretary

Enclosures:

1. Suggested reply.
2. Unofficial translation of Soviet message.
3. Russian Text of Soviet message.